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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/814,526	03/31/2004	Ashish Kumar Jain	P71465US00GP	6904

23378 7590 09/09/2005

BRADLEY ARANT ROSE & WHITE, LLP
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EXAMINER

SMITH, RICHARD A

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2859

DATE MAILED: 09/09/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

H.D

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/814,526	JAIN ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	R. Alexander Smith	2859	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-28 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-28 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 31 March 2004 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Drawings

1. The drawings are objected to because elements 41 and 43 in figure 4 do not point at the arrowheads as discussed in the specification.

Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Specification

2. The specification is objected to because of the following informalities:

a) Throughout the specification the applicant uses the word "patter" or "patters" when the intended word is --pattern-- or --patterns--.

b) The applicant has used acronyms without provided a full description of the acronym at the first occurrence; such as, FAA on page 1, ATC on page 6 although it is introduced on page 9, and VOR in example 1 on page 11.

Claim Objections

3. Claim 8 is objected to because of the following informality: Claim 8 is grammatically incorrect in that there is no sentence. It roughly starts with "where" followed by descriptors of directional headings but there is no verb nor limitation following the descriptors.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

5. Claims 1-28 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. 4,274,204 to Self.

Self discloses with respect to claims 1 and 7, a plurality of entry determining elements being movable secured together by a means for securing when the plural elements are the standard and non-standard holding patterns shown on one side of the card 42, the landing pattern is shown on the other side of the card 42, and the elements on card 42 being movably secured together with respect to slotted frame 12 and its two parts 14 and 16.

Self discloses with respect to claim 12, the entry determining element comprising a line bisecting the element and comprising the reference element and the line dividing the determining element into two entry determining sectors when the longitudinal axis of the landing pattern which aligns with 94, 80, 60, 72, 90, 80, 62, 72, and 94 of figure 1 is taken as the line.

Self discloses each entry determining element being divided into a plurality of entry determining sectors (shown by the hatching patterns of figure 3), each determining element

Art Unit: 2859

having a reference element (100 and 102 of figure 3, and the longitudinal axis of the landing pattern which aligns with 94, 80, 60, 72, 90, 80, 62, 72, 94 of figure 1), entry plan designators (the unmarked straight arrows in each sector in combination with the corresponding unmarked loop which address teardrop, parallel, and direct) which provides a visual representation, the environment consisting of a holding pattern and a runway traffic pattern, the direction head associated with the holding pattern in the outbound radial and with the runway traffic pattern in the runway, the entry determining elements comprise a set of two bisecting lines, one of said lines being the reference element (100 and 102), the entry designator sectors having a visually distinguishable feature which is selected from the listed group (in this case hatching). Furthermore, Self discloses that other patterns (holding, landing etc.) can be placed on placards as needed.

Self does not disclose each element as claimed being labeled, e.g. each entry determining sector being associated with an entry determining label and the label informing the user of the advised entry procedure, each entry plan designator comprising a visually distinguishable feature and wherein the feature is of line color, configuration or combination thereof (Shea shows partial distinguishable features with respect to the teardrop, parallel or direct), the entry determining elements being of a shape selected from a circle, oval, square, rectangle, etc. as listed, the shape of each entry determining element being the same and being different, the entry determining element having a surface texture selected from smooth, rough or ridged and wherein they are the same and different,

With respect to the printed matter which includes each element as claimed being labeled, e.g. each entry determining sector being associated with an entry determining label and the label

informing the user of the advised entry procedure, each entry plan designator comprising a visually distinguishable feature and wherein the feature is of line color, configuration or combination thereof, the entry determining elements being of a shape selected from a circle, oval, square, rectangle, etc. as listed, the shape of each entry determining element being the same and being different, the entry determining element having a surface texture selected from smooth, rough or ridged and wherein they are the same and different: It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to include labeling and to include lines, colors, shapes and textures and to make them the same and/or different as claimed since (a) it would only depend on the intended use of the assembly and the desired information to be displayed, and (b) Self already discloses labeling using letters, hatching, dashed/solid lines, and various arrows in order to clearly convey to the user the necessary information so that the user can readily follow the appropriate determining element with its sectors, reference elements, and entry plan designators without becoming confused.

Conclusion

6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to Applicant's disclosure. The prior art cited in PTO-892 and not mentioned above disclose related navigational assist systems.

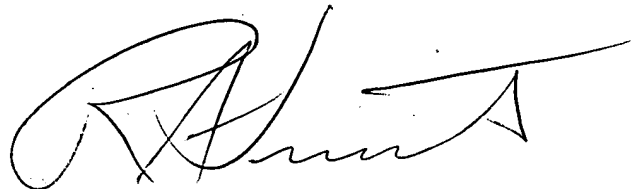
Art Unit: 2859

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to R. Alexander Smith whose telephone number is 571-272-2251.

The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 9:30-6:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Diego F. Gutierrez can be reached on 571-272-2245. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R. Alexander Smith', with a stylized flourish at the end.

R. Alexander Smith
Primary Examiner
Technology Center 2800

RAS
September 6, 2005